

**REMARKS**

Claims 5-11 and 15 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claim 5, 8, 11 and 15 are amended. Claims 5 and 15 are amended to further distinguish the present application from Latocha. Claims 8 and 11 are amended to correct dependency. Claims 1-4, 12-14 and 16 are canceled.

No new matter is added by this Amendment. Support for the language added to claim 5 can be found in original claims 1 and 2. Support for the language added to claim 15 can be found at, for example, page 18, lines 5-13 of the specification.

**I. Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §102**

**A. Klein**

Claims 1-4 and 12-14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(a) as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,163,326 ("Klein"). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claims 1-4 and 12-14 have been canceled by this Amendment. Applicant submits that this rejection is now moot.

Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

**B. Latocha**

Claims 1-5, 8, and 12-16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,790,372 ("Latocha"). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claims 1-4, 12-14 and 16 have been canceled by this Amendment.

Regarding claims 5 and 8, Latocha teaches an electronic working surface that can act as both a portable terminal and a control unit. See column 6, lines 54-55. According to the Patent Office, Latocha teaches that each of the control units comprises movable contacts which, when said control unit is mounted on said portable terminal in such a way as to lie on one of said contact detection plates, come into and out of contact with said contact detection

plate by move. The Patent Office alleges that Figure 3a (items fm and m) and column 5, lines 15-35 of Latocha teach this feature. Applicant strenuously disagrees.

In fact, Latocha teaches that the side surfaces of a basic element are equipped with a male (m) and a female (fm) plug device which engage each other. See column 5, lines 25-28 of Latocha. Latocha does not teach or suggest that the control unit is mounted in such a way as to lie on the contact detection plate(s) as required in claim 5 and clearly shown in Figure 2c of the present specification.

Latocha does not teach or suggest a portable terminal comprising contact detection plates and control unit(s) that comprise movable contact(s), that enable the control unit to be mounted on the portable terminal in such a way as to lie on one of the contact detection plates, such that the movable contact can thus come in and out of contact with the contact detection plate, as recited in claim 5.

Accordingly, Applicant submits that claims 5 and dependent claims 8 and 15 are distinguished over Latocha. Thus, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

## **II. Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)**

Claims 6, 7, and 9-11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Klein in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,369,798 ("Yatsu"). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Klein, as admitted by the Patent Office, does not teach or suggest a portable terminal comprising contact detection plates and control unit(s) that comprise movable contact(s), that enable the control unit to be mounted on the portable terminal in such a way as to lie on one of the contact detection plates, such that the movable contact can thus come in and out of contact with the contact detection plate, as recited in claim 5. Yatsu does not remedy the

deficiencies of Klein. Yatsu does not teach or suggest that the a control unit lies on a contact detection plate as required by claim 5.

Applicant submits that claim 5 is patentable in view of Klein and Yatsu. Accordingly, claims 6, 7 and 9-11, which directly or indirectly depend from claim 5, are also allowable. Thus, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

**III. Conclusion**

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 5-11 and 15 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: March 1, 2005

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